

## Message Text

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21

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /076 W  
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R 261702Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6510

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 5714

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: SPAIN AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR  
EUROPEAN MIGRATION (ICEM)

REF: STATE 181893

1. ON RECEIPT REFTEL JULY 24, I SPOKE WITH NEW  
UNDERSECRETARY OF FROEIGN AFFAIRS SOLANO, WHO UNTIL  
HIS APPOINTMENT AS UNDERSECRETARY, HAS BEEN SPANISH  
REPRESENTATIVE TO UN ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA. IN  
RESPONSE TO MY INQUIRY CONCERNING SPANISH POSITION,  
SOLANO SAID THAT DECISION HAD BEEN TAKEN FOR SPAIN  
TO WITHDRAW FROM ICEM BY SEPTEMBER 1. HE INDICATED  
THAT SPAIN WAS NOT HAPPY WITH WHAT HE REFERRED TO  
AS "CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES" AND HAD THEREFORE DECIDED  
TO WITHDRAW AS A FULL MEMBER BUT WOULD REQUEST  
OBSERVER STATUS. UNDERSECRETARY INDICATED THAT  
SPAIN HAD NO "RESENTMENT" TOWARD ICEM AND INTENDED TO HAVE  
DISCUSSIONS WITH ICEM TO TRY TO REACH AGREEMENT SATISFACTORY  
TO BOTH PARTIES.

2. IN LIGHT OF THE UNDERSECRETARY'S INDICATION OF  
SPANISH DECISION TO WITHDRAW, I THEM SPOKE TO HIM  
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ALONG THE LINES OF PARAGRAPH 4 REFTEL, POINTING OUT

THE GREAT IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO ICEM  
ACTIVITIES AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT GOS WOULD  
REVIEW ITS POSITION.

3. UNDERSECRETARY SAID HE WAS AFRAID OUR DEMARCHE  
WAS SOMEWHAT LATE ADDING THAT THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW  
HAD BEEN TAKEN BEFORE HE HAD RETURNED TO THE FOREIGN  
OFFICE.

4. I SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR SPANISH WITHDRAWAL FROM ICEM HAD LARGELY ORIGINATED  
WITH SOLANO WHILE HE WAS SPANISH PERMREP IN  
GENEVA. IN LIGHT OF THIS, I TOOK OCCASION OF MY  
CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA MORNING JULY 26 ON  
OTHER MATTERS TO RAISE PERSONALLY WITH HIM THE  
SPANISH RELATIONSHIP TO ICEM.

5. OREJA TOLD ME THAT THE DECISION FOR SPAIN TO  
WITHDRAW AS A MEMBER OF ICEM HAD BEEN TAKEN--HE THOUGHT  
AT THE CABINET LEVEL--SHORTLY AFTER VISIT TO  
MADRID LAST SPRING OF ICEM DIRECTOR JOHN THOMAS.  
HE TOOK NOTE OF MY COMMENTS ON THE IMPORTANCE WE  
ATTACH TO ICEM ACTIVITIES AND PROMISED THAT HE  
WOULD RE-EXAMINE THE QUESTION AND GIVE ME A  
REPLY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE DID NOT OFFER  
ANY PROSPECT THAT THE SPANISH POSITION WOULD  
BE CHANGED.  
STABLER

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## Message Attributes

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